



Our mission is to build a solid group of highly qualified professionals who are dedicated to building a strong networking referral group based on the philosophy that you have to give to get.

:Y, 2017
Volume 5, Issue 3

Nova Networking meets every Thursday, 11:30 - 1:00 at Fiona's Irish Pub 5810 Kingstown Center, Alexandria, VA

Ucoming Meetings:

Maureen Truxton	10/05/2017
Affinity Groups	10/12/2017
Ron Reyner	10/19/2017
Donna Wilson	10/26/2017

Leadership Team

- President:*
Kevin Cook
- Vice President*
Elaine O'Malley
- Recording Secretary*
Robin Wulff
- Webmaster*
Matt Callen
- Training Facilitator*
Kathryn Young
- Membership Team*
Brook Mitchell
Elaine O'Malley
Theresa Gunlicks
- Treasurer*
Donna Wilson
- Guest Hosts*
Jerry Haley
Linda Rodgeron
- Social media/Marketing*
Laura R Drain

Featured speaker:

Khady Lusby

Arlington resident Khady Lusby is giving back to the village where she grew up in her native Senegal. In 2009, she started a school, College Adja Penda Ba, with the goal of giving girls not only a chance to continue their formal education, but also to empower them economically by learning about agriculture and technology. Already a local success story, the school comprises two classrooms educating more than 50 students in 8th and 9th grade combined, the years when young girls are most likely to drop out of school.

In June 2008 while visiting Nioro, she was approached by a group of young high school girls and one of their teachers who asked if she could help them to set up a library. They also dreamed of getting a computer and internet access to be able to learn about the rest of the world and possibly connect with other students around the globe. Thanks to friends and neighbors in Arlington, Khady was able to raise \$2,390 June of 2009, and the planned library became a school.

OPEN International is committed to providing the children of Nioro access to a quality education. Our approach is to combine academic and agricultural programs for children in rural Senegal in order to increase successful academic outcomes, and an opportunity for the students to acquire marketable skills and the opportunity to attend university. We believe that this approach can create empowered youth that will set the stage for self-sustaining communities that are able to address the issues their citizens face.

Meeting Agenda

- ❖ Casual networking
- ❖ Recognition of first time guests
- ❖ Introduction of Leadership Team
- ❖ Words of Wisdom
- ❖ Secretary's Report
- ❖ Induction of New Members
- ❖ Elevator speeches
- ❖ Featured Speaker

Linda

Rodgeron,

- ❖ Activity Reporting
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Drawing
- ❖ Final Thoughts

ANYONE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP SHOULD CONTACT BROOK MITCHELL, ELAINE O'MALLEY THERESA GUNLICKS

NOTES:

AMYSARR'S STORY

When Amysarr failed her 9th grade exam she was kicked out of public school. With nowhere else to turn, her father went to the principal at CAPB to plead his daughter's case. He said she was smart and a hard worker, but that he didn't have the down payment for her tuition. Amysarr was allowed to start classes while her father saved. Nearly two months into the term, he's still struggling to come up with the money.

In the meantime, Amysarr is excelling in her classes. English is her favorite subject and it shows. Even in the classes she finds difficult, like advanced algebra, she's engaged and enthusiastic. I watched her step up to the chalkboard to work through a problem. When she started to get off-track she calmly reached for the sponge, erased her mistake and kept on working until she got it right.

Despite walking 7km to and from class everyday, Amysarr is expected to do her normal chores: cleaning, cooking, taking care of the little ones (and the men), dishes and laundry. Even though she's allowed to go to school, she's still a girl after all.

AmySarr does these chores during the mid-day school break (12 – 3pm) at her grandmother's house near the school, and again in the evening once she has made the 7km trek back home. She fits in homework whenever she can, and when she finishes she beams with pride. School is the bright spot in her day.

Amysarr in class



Maita cleaning at home



MAITA'S STORY

Maita went to school and completed the fifth grade when she was 12-years-old, but wasn't able to pass the national exam. While her parents wanted her to continue her education, she was not allowed to stay in public school and there was no way her family could pay private tuition.

She only had one option left. Maita's family began preparing her for marriage. Often, girls are considered a liability in the rural villages of Senegal...someone has to pay for their basic needs. But if a family marries off their daughter, they have one less mouth to feed. So when Maita was 14, she became a wife.

Since her husband is young and she is a first wife, she is working as a maid and supporting her parents while her husband works to establish a household. She cooks, cleans and takes care of other people's kids all day long.

At this young age when American teens are thinking about all the exciting possibilities of their young lives, Maita's future has already been set in stone.

The key to changing the future for girls like Maita is education, getting a chance to continue on to 6, 9 and 12 grade in order to obtain valuable skills that can be utilized in the community.

EVENTS :

Judd - Mack Client Appreciation Party

Saturday, October 14th

11 AM - 3 PM

Cox Farms

15621 Braddock Rd.

Centreville

RSVP to admin@juddmack.com

Northern Virginia Women In Business Quarterly Meeting

November 15, 201

1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

\$35

Trio Grill 8100 Lee Hwy, Falls Church, VA

RSVP to <http://bit.ly/womenexponov>